

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of MIKE MCCARTNEY Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:45 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 309 In consideration of

SCR86

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON POTENTIAL INDUSTRIES, OTHER THAN TOURISM, TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY OF HAWAII.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) **supports the intent** of SCR86 which requests DBEDT to conduct a study on potential areas of economic development, other than tourism, for the County of Hawaii.

Current DBEDT studies cover industry analyses by county including the County of Hawaii. These studies include: Hawaii's Targeted & Emerging Industries (updated annually as required by the Legislature), Performance of the Manufacturing Industries in Hawaii and the U.S., Hawaii's Cluster Economic Performance, Gross Domestic Product in Hawaii and the U.S., and Hawaii's Creative Industries.

These reports provide assessments of the performance of various industries for the state and counties and may be sufficient to meet the request of the concurrent resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





Written Statement of Len Higashi

Acting Executive Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON POTENTIAL INDUSTRIES, OTHER THAN TOURISM, TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY OF HAWAII.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committees.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) offers **comments** on SCR86 which requests DBEDT to conduct a study on potential areas of economic development, other than tourism, for the County of Hawaii.

As part of HTDC's vision to create 80,000 new innovation jobs in Hawaii earning \$80,000 or more by 2030, HTDC supports initiatives aimed at promoting technology and innovation jobs. HTDC provides program support to the County of Hawaii through our NI3 mentorship program, Hawaii SBIR and Manufacturing Assistance matching grant programs, sponsorship of the HiPlan Business Plan competition, GVS Transmedia accelerator program, planning for the development of the Hilo Innovation and Manufacturing Center, collaborating with NELHA and HSDC on an aquaculture accelerator at NELHA, and with NELHA on a microgrid project. Current DBEDT studies cover industry analyses by county including the County of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.